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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/731,706	12/08/2000	Toshiaki Nakano	Q61797	9699

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Washington, DC 20037

EXAMINER

RIMELL, SAMUEL G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2175

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/731,706

Applicant(s)

NAKANO, TOSHIAKI

Examiner

Sam Rimell

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

Preliminary Notes: Applicant's Japanese foreign priority application of 12/8/99 has been received. The claim to foreign priority is accepted. Applicant's drawings filed December 8, 2000 are considered to be formal drawings.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rangan ('073).

Claim 1: Rangan discloses a retrieval site connected to the Internet, as illustrated in FIG. 2. The retrieval site is supported by a retrieval server (31 described at col. 4, line 12) and a retrieval database (29 described at col. 4, line 14). The retrieval server is operative to fetch URL data from a plurality of information providing sites (23, 25, 27) and store the URL data for these sites in the retrieval database (29).

The URL data retrieved represents detailed information regarding services. Some of these services are similar services. For example, "My Bank.com", "My Stocks.com" and "Mortgage.com" each provide financial information, and thus provide similar services.

At this point, a user at an information terminal (17) can input information (the address "Internet Portal.com" as shown in FIG. 2) and the server will transmit the page of Fig. 2 to the information terminal (17) from the server (31). The display of the page of FIG. 2 on the user's terminal is considered a comparative display of the detailed information, since each URL listed adjacent the other URLs in a comparative manner.

Claim 2: The retrieval server (31) fetches data retrieves information in the form of a listing of web sites (FIG. 2) The name of the site itself is indicative of the services associated with the site.

Claim 3: FIG. 2 illustrates the listing of websites (LBC.com, MyBank.com, etc.) which may be simultaneously searched by the user. Each one of the listed site names is also a hyperlink (col. 5, lines 43-44). The data in FIG. 2 is retrieved from the database 31 (col. 4, lines 19-23).

Claim 4: In the system of Rangan, the user has a pre-established profile (col. 6, lines 39-42). This profile consists of a listing of passwords and user names established by the user (34 in FIG. 2) which are used to access the listing of sites. This profile is retrieved and called upon whenever the user wants to access these sites.

Remarks

Applicants arguments have been considered.

Applicant argues that in Rangan, the URLs shown in FIG. 2 are not representative of detailed information regarding similar services. Examiner does not agree with this assertion. The server (31) retrieves and maintains each of the URLs shown in the display of FIG. 2. Each one of these URLs are reasonably considered to be detailed information. In particular, they are detailed information regarding a location of a website and the general type of information that the website conveys. Additionally, the detailed information may pertain to similar services. For example, the sites "My Bank.com", "Mortgage. com" and "My Stocks.com" are each URLs that pertain to websites that will convey some form of financial information. Accordingly, each of these URLs pertain to similar services.

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Applicant also argues that in Rangan, the server does not retrieve data from a plurality of information providing sites. Examiner does not agree with this assertion. As seen by the architecture in FIG. 1, the server is the server computer (31) interposed between the information providing sites (23, 25, 27) and the end user at (17). In the architecture illustrated in FIG. 1, it is physically impossible to bypass the server when providing data to the end user. In the architecture shown, the server must retrieve the data from the information providing sites (23, 25, 27) in order to serve the data to the end user at (17). This is further verified by the discussion at col. 4, lines 12-23.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sam Rimell at telephone number (703) 306-5626.



Sam Rimell
Primary Examiner
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